

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

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TAGS: NATO, MARR

SUBJECT: MILITARY PROCUREMENT AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1975

REF: A. USNATO 4319

B. STATE 185915

C. USNATO 4 587

CHARGE HAS RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM SYG LUNS IN
RESPONSE TO MABASSADOR RUMSFELD'S LETTER OF AUGUST 27. BEGIN TEXT.

I HAVE READ WITH INTEREST AMBASSDOR RUMSFELD'S
LETTER OF 27TH AUGUST, 1974 ADDRESSED IN MY ABSENSE TO
AMBASSDOR PANSA, INFORMING THE COUNCIL OF THE PROVISIONS OF
SECTION 302 OF THE 1975 UNITED STATES MILITARY PROCUREMENT
AUTHORISATION ACT.

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IT IS GRATIFYING TO LEARN THAT THE MILITARY
APPROPRIATION ACT DOES NOT CALL FOR ANY REDUCTION IN THE OVERALL
STRENGTH OF THE UNITED STATES FORCES IN EUROPE. THE CALL FOR AN
INCREASE IN THE COMBAT STRENGTH OF THESE FORCES AT THE EXPENSE

OF NON-COMBAT UNITS ALSO OF GREAT INTEREST. I AM MOST GRATEFUL FOR THE ASSURANCE THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL KEEP THE ALLIANCDE FULLY INFORMED OF PROGRESS IN RESTRUCTURING IN THIS RESPECT OF THEIR NATO-COMMITTED FORCES.

I WAS ALSO EXTEMELY INTERESTED IN THE DIRCTIVE TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE TO ASSESS THE COSTS AND LOSS OF NON-NUCLEAR COMBAT EFFECTIVENESS OF NATO MILITARY FORCES RESULTING DIRECTLY FROM THE FAILURE OF NATIONS TO STANDARDISE WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT. I AM SURE THAT A STUDY OF THIS KIND WOULD PROVIDE THE BEST ILLUSTRATION POSSIBLE OF THE URGENT AND IMMEDIATE NEED TO MAKE PROGRESS IN THIS FIELD. THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF WILL BE VERY READY TO PROVIDE WHAT ASSISTANCE THEY CAN WITH THIS ASSESSMENT WHEN YOUR AUTHORITIES HAVE DECIDED HOW TO APPROACH IT. AT FIRST SIGHT, HOWEVER, IT WOULD SEEM TO BE A COMPLEX TASK WHICH WOULD REQUIRE, AT LEAST SO FAR AS COSTS ARE CONCERNED, THE PARTICIPATION AND CLOSE CO-OPERATION OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES. YOU WILL REMEMBER, INCIDENTALLY, THAT WE HAVE ALREADY GONE SOME WAY TO IDENTIFY OPPORTUNITIES FOR STANDARDISTION AND CO-OPERATIVE ACTION IN THE CURRENT FORCE GOALS WHICH WERE APPROVED THIS SPRING.

AS FOR THE STUDY OF TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN EUROPE, I SEEM TO REMEMBER THAT SECRETARY SCHLESINGER HAS PREVIOUSLY COMMENTED PUBLICLY ON THE NEED FOR SUCH A REVIEW. AS YOU POINT OUT THE NUCLEAR PLANNIG GROUP IS ALREADY ENGAGED IN EXAMINING THE POLITICAL AND MILITARY IMPLICATIONS OF NEW WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY ON THE TACTICAL USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, BUT THIS EXERICSE IS UNLIKELY TO BE COMPLETED BEFORE 1ST APRIL, 1975. THE WHOLE SUBJECT, HOWEVER, IS ONE WHICH IS OF THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE FOR NATO STRATEGY; WHILE I AM GRATEFUL FOR YOUR ASSURANCE THAT NATO WILL BE KEPT INFORMED OF THE RESULTS OF THE UNITED STATES STUDY AS PROVIDED TO CONGRESS, I HOPE THAT THERE WILL ALSO BE CLOSE CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE RESPONSIBLE UNITED STATES AUTHORITIES AND NATO WHILE THE STUDY IS INPROGRESS.

I AM ALSO SENDING COPIES OF THIS LETTER TO ALL
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PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE.

END TEXT.
MCAULIFFE.

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